

**AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP  
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

**Study Series: Forgiven to Become Forgivers**  
**Lesson 8 - Lessons from Story of David and Saul**

**Wednesday, June 22, 2022**  
**Facilitator: Pastor Yewande Efodili**

<b>Breakdown of “Forgiven to Become Forgivers” Bible Study Series</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Key Texts</b>
5/4/2022	Lesson 1 - Understanding God’s Forgiveness	Romans 4:7, 2 Corinthians 5:18-20
5/11/2022	Lesson 2 - How to Receive God’s Forgiveness	1 John 1:8-10, Luke 15:11-32
5/18/2022	Lesson 3 - Going from the Forgiven to the Forgivers	Ephesians 4:31-32, Matthew 18:21-35
5/25/2022	Lesson 4 - Learning to Become a Forgiving Person	Luke 6:27-36, Matthew 18:15-17
6/1/2022	Lesson 5 - Benefits of Living a Forgiving Life	Romans 12:18-21, 2 Corinthians 2:5-11
6/8/2022	Lesson 6 - Forgiveness and Healing	James 5:16, Psalm 103:2-5
6/15/2022	Lesson 7 - Loving Those Who Hate You	Matthew 5:43-48, Luke 6:27-31
6/22/2022	Lesson 8 - Lessons from Story of David and Saul	1 Samuel 19, 1 Samuel 24
6/29/2022	Lesson 9 - Forgiveness and Reconciliation	Matthew 18:15-17, Romans 12:18
7/6/2022	Lesson 10 - Living Un-offended	Matthew 11:6, 1 Corinthians 13:5

From Last lesson “**Loving those who hate you**” we learnt that God want us to love our enemies and become peacemakers; we learnt there are benefits to loving our enemies (Loving others is an indication of our spiritual health). *What are the other benefits we gained from loving those who hate us?*

In today’s lesson we are going to look at the biblical case study about David and Saul to understand **how to deal with difficult people in our lives** and **how to balance loving and protecting ourselves**.

*How do we deal with difficult people in our lives?* E.g. Parents, siblings, bosses etc.

**Short Bio of Saul:** Saul was the 1<sup>st</sup> king of Israel, he was anointed by Samuel as instructed by God. He was the youngest son of Kish of the tribe of Benjamin; he reigned between 1020 to 1000 BC. He was successful in freeing Israel of its enemies and extended Israel’s boundaries. The downfall of Saul began after he offered a sacrifice to God without priestly authority, taking the place of Samuel 1 Sam.13:9-12.

The second issue occurred after Saul retained the goods of the war of the defeated Amalekites and spared the life of King Agag against God’s direction. 1 Sam.15:10-31

**Short Bio of David:** David was the 2<sup>nd</sup> king of Israel, also anointed by Samuel as instructed by God. He was born around 1000 BCE. He was the eighth and youngest son of Jesse from the tribe of Judah and he reigned for Forty years between 1035 to 970 BCE. He was regarded as the model king and he attained popularity by killing the giant Goliath in combat 1 Sam.17:49. David was a skilled Harpist, a warrior, statesman, loyal friend, and gifted poet. He was a man after God’s own heart and shepherded the people with integrity of heart, with skillful hands he led them Psalm 78:72 NIV.

**Saul’s Hatred and Hostility toward David**

The Spirit of the Lord Departed from Saul and An Evil Spirit Tormented him.

- Oftentimes, when people develop hatred towards us, we must recognize it is an evil spirit using them. This does not excuse people because everyone has freewill; Saul’s hatred developed into murder; attempted to kill David by all means.
- **1 Samuel 16:14-15** “Now the Spirit of the Lord had departed from Saul, and an evil[a] spirit from the Lord tormented him. 15 Saul’s attendants said to him, “See, an evil spirit from God is tormenting you.

*Why did Saul feel so threatened by David?* 1 Sam 18:15-16

## Saul developed hatred for David out of Jealousy

- Saul allowed envy and jealousy to fill his heart. **1 Samuel 18:7-8** “As they danced, they sang: “Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands.” 8 Saul was very angry; this refrain displeased him greatly. “They have credited David with tens of thousands,” he thought, “but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the kingdom?”
- The Lord continued to prosper David despite Saul’s hatred. **1 Samuel 18:14-15** “In everything he did he had great success, because the Lord was with him. 15 When Saul saw how successful he was; he was afraid of him.” **Why was Saul Afraid of David?**
- **1 Samuel 22:8** “Is that why you have all conspired against me? No one tells me when my son makes a covenant with the son of Jesse. None of you is concerned about me or tells me that my son has incited my servant to lie in wait for me, as he does today.”

## Saul Attempted to kill David. Why do you think Saul wanted David dead?

- **1 Samuel 19:9-10** “But an evil spirit from the Lord came on Saul as he was sitting in his house with his spear in his hand. While David was playing the lyre, 10 Saul tried to pin him to the wall with his spear, but David eluded him as Saul drove the spear into the wall. That night David made good his escape.

## Saul began an all-out effort to destroy David

- 1 Samuel 23:8 And Saul called up all his forces for battle, to go down to Keilah to besiege David and his men.”
- 1 Samuel 24:1-2 “After Saul returned from pursuing the Philistines, he was told, “David is in the Desert of En Gedi.” 2 So Saul took three thousand able young men from all Israel and set out to look for David and his men near the Crags of the Wild Goats.

## David’s Response to Saul’s Hatred and Persecution. How do we balance loving others and protecting ourselves in the case of Abuse? Discuss

David served Saul faithfully despite Saul’s hostility toward him

- Our faithfulness will be rewarded by God even if unrecognized by leaders.
- **1 Samuel 16:23** “Whenever the spirit from God came on Saul, David would take up his lyre and play. Then relief would come to Saul; he would feel better, and the evil spirit would leave him.

What did David do when he realized Saul was going to kill him? David flee from Abuse and protected himself.

## David protected himself – he ran for his life

- We must recognize when to apply wisdom and run away from abuse or danger.
- **1 Samuel 19:9-10** “But an evil spirit from the Lord came on Saul as he was sitting in his house with his spear in his hand. While David was playing the lyre, 10 Saul tried to pin him to the wall with his spear, but David eluded him as Saul drove the spear into the wall. That night David made good his escape.

## David Refused to revenge Why did David not kill Saul when he had an opportunity?

- Twice refusing to kill Saul and retaliate. He allowed God to fight. **is this something you can do?**
- **1 Samuel 24:6** “He said to his men, “The Lord forbid that I should do such a thing to my master, the Lord’s anointed, or lay my hand on him; for he is the anointed of the Lord.”
- David Again Spares Saul’s Life. 1 Samuel 26

## David grieved over Saul’s death: 2 Samuel 1

- This is a remarkable attribute of David. He refused to gloat over the death of his abuser; but kill the man that killed Saul.

Ultimately, David won by not fighting but by embracing the fruits of the spirit and by obeying God’s judgement to prevail. “Never retaliate when someone treats you wrongly; nor insult those who insult you; but instead, respond by speaking a blessing over them – because a blessing is what God promised to give you.” 1 Peter 3:9 TPT